

Pre-Columbian America

Knowledge:

Tell how the first people might have come to America and what their lives were probably like after they arrived.

Comprehension:

Map the Bering land bridge and the possible migration routes through North America.

Application:

Think as an anthropologist does. Write a paper in which you tell how Native American societies were changed by the coming of the Europeans.

Analysis:

Identify and explain major differences among the seven American Indian culture groups. Present your findings in a rubric.

Synthesis:

Imagine that you belonged to one of the culture groups in pre-Columbian America. Construct a folktale or legend that reveals part of the history and the values of your culture.

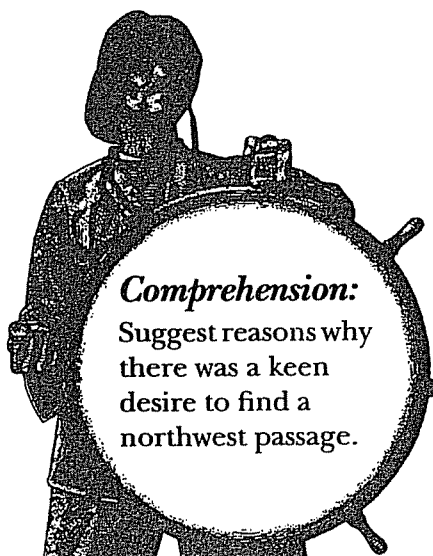
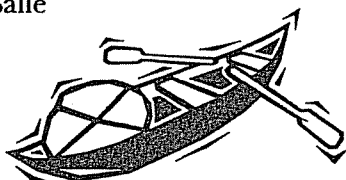
Evaluation:

Decide which of the seven cultures you would have preferred to live in. Give reasons for your choice.

Early Explorers

Knowledge: Select three of the explorers listed below. Tell of their discoveries in North America.

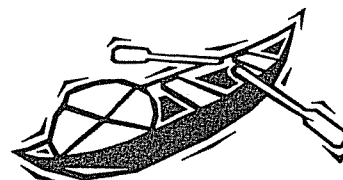
John Cabot
Giovanni da Verrazano
Jacques Cartier
Martin Frobisher
Samuel de Champlain
Henry Hudson
Lewis Joliet
Robert Cavelier, Sieur de La Salle



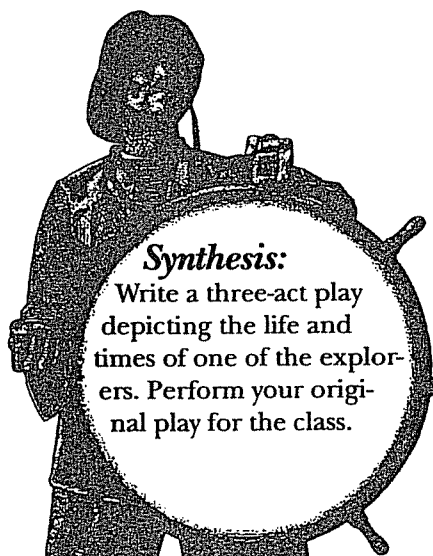
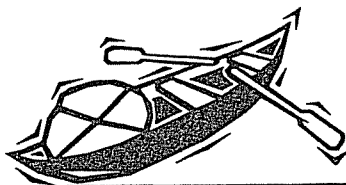
Comprehension:

Suggest reasons why there was a keen desire to find a northwest passage.

Application: Prepare a list of supplies needed for an expedition into the "unknown" territories of the North American continent.



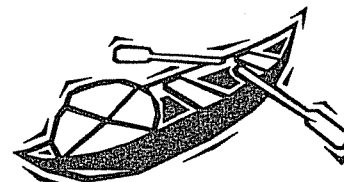
Analysis: Suppose an efficient route to Asia from Europe had existed. What effect would that have had on the settling of the North American continent?



Synthesis:

Write a three-act play depicting the life and times of one of the explorers. Perform your original play for the class.

Evaluation: Decide which group did the best in the following categories: script, costumes, overall performance, most historically realistic. Award the group a Certificate of Appreciation.



The Pre-Columbian Era

1. What if the horse had not become extinct in North America?
2. What if ancient Americans had discovered metallurgy?
3. What if ancient Americans had discovered the wheel?
4. What if ancient Americans had sent explorers to Europe or Asia?
5. What if ancient Americans had developed nation states?
6. What if the Vikings had stayed in America?
7. What if the Vikings had told other Europeans about America?
8. What if the Chinese had sent explorers to America?
9. What if ancient Americans had stayed in Asia?
10. What if more Native Americans had been city builders?

The Age of Exploration

1. What if the Italian explorers had made their land claims for their own countries?
2. What if Amerigo Vespucci had succeeded in reaching the Pacific Ocean first?
3. What if Amerigo Vespucci had not claimed that America was part of a new world? What if he believed it was part of Asia as Columbus insisted?
4. What if Cortes had not conquered the Aztecs?
5. What if the Spanish had discovered gold in California?
6. What if Columbus had given up?
7. What if Columbus had been turned down by the Spanish?
8. What if Columbus had convinced the Portuguese to back his voyages of exploration?
9. What if Columbus had reached Asia?
10. What if Columbus had known he wasn't in Asia?
11. What if Magellan had lived to return to Spain?
12. What if Giovanni Caboto (John Cabot) had survived his second voyage?
13. What if the English or French had never claimed colonies in the New World?
14. What if the Native Americans had had resistance to European diseases?
15. What if the potato had not been discovered in the New World?
16. What if maize had not been discovered in the New World?
17. What if the French or Spanish had conquered all of North America?
18. What if Sir Francis Drake had been captured by the Spanish and hanged for piracy?
19. What if there had been no slavery in America?
20. What if tobacco never existed?
21. What if the New World never existed?
22. What if gunpowder had never been introduced to Europe?
23. What if the caravel had not been invented?
24. What if the compass had not been invented?